The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DAVE W7UUU

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Groundhog Day continues and other musings

Most of us I'm sure can recall the great old 1993 Bill Murray movie, Groundhog Day; where his character, Phil, working as a TV weatherman ends up trapped in a loop in while covering the "weather forecasting rat" (as he calls it), Punxsutawney Phil – the famous groundhog. Day after day it seems the same things happen, over and over, and nothing really ever changes. Sound familiar? It surely does with us as I'm pretty sure for everyone.

But life is getting back to what I consider to be "a new normal" for business and work, and our weekly routines. Like all of you, Anne N7ANN and I have become ever more proficient in Zoom calls (as well as GoToMeeting, Microsoft Teams, Skype, etc.) with some days being back to back such calls not only for work but for family. So in the weirdness of all of this, a certain normalcy is starting to develop. Not a fun normalcy, like we used to have with business trips and air travel and hotels in one of our seven states. But a normalcy that is starting to smooth the days into a pattern we now know and can plan for. Hopefully this can be said for all of you reading this – I certainly hope so.

Also a big pat on the back for everyone who has been stepping up to join our virtual meetings – both the Board Meeting on the first Wednesday of every month, as well as the General Meeting on the second Saturday. We have seen a lot of improvement as folks get more and more comfortable with the Zoom format and how to get things working on their computers. Same is true for the Saturday virtual open house and the DEN, or Donut Eaters Net hosted by Gary WG7X every Saturday morning at 10.

I'd like to thank those who took up Al N7OMS in his initiative to get as many RCT members as possible on the air on RTTY (Radio teletype, for those who may not know that acronym) on Saturday May 16th from 10:00 to 10:00 Sunday May 17th local time in a effort to work as many members as possible using RTTY on the 10-meter band (so that Technician class operators could join – which they did!).

This fun little event fell on the same weekend as other RTTY contests / events, but in our case it was not a competition but rather a means for members to work each other on this well-established legacy mode of amateur radio in an effort to achieve the newly-created Logger's Certificate, RTTY Edition! So in light of this, contacts could be pulled from the logs of those participating that could date back years, even decades, as they worked to add more in the goal of having worked at least 10 club members, regardless of when.

Alas, I only had one member in my log on RTTY from a few years ago (Gary WG7X) and pulled in 7 new contacts on Saturday but that only brought me to 8 total so I did not qualify. My time was on a short leash that day so I couldn't be at the radio the whole time. But I'm happy to report that as of this writing, a total of four such certificates have been granted, with Numero Uno being none other than the guy who thought the whole thing up, Al, N7OMS! Certificates will go in the mail this week but I'm just dragging my feet in case a few more get emailed to me. If you would like to apply for the coveted Logger's Certificate, RTTY Edition, just email me your list of members worked and we'll get yours out in the mail as well. It's totally the honor system – you do not need to submit any formal log.

I hope that in coming months, we can perhaps expand this fun event format to embrace other modes including HF SSB, CW, FT or even more exotic or seldom seen modes such as JT65, PSK31, or even SSTV (slow-scan TV, exchanging color images over HF). It's very easy for me to modify the vintage 1957 Logger's Certificate stock paper to meet a new format.

Well that's about it for now. I hope everyone is doing well, doing all the right things and staying home if you're in a high risk category. Anne and I both had CV19 back in February and it was no fun. You don't want it! Stay well and we'll see you in the next Zoom meeting down the road

My best regards to all

Dave
W7UUU

From the Editor

Hello again fellow club members! Yes, another month has come and gone and we are still putting up with the "new normal"! I have a feeling that we will be doing this routine for the foreseeable future. Masks, gloves, social isolating, the whole tiring enchilada… If anyone out there has the ability, can we at least get some decent band conditions? That way, when we are isolated we could at least work a bit of DX or something, right? Right!

The whole social isolation thing comes naturally to a lot of us. We hams, as a group are used to sitting in front of a radio, usually by ourselves, so it comes naturally to us not to have anyone in close proximity!

The spring weather has brought out the flowers and that means that...

The air is full of pollen! If the CV-19 virus was not enough, the seasonal allergies just add to the fun… Have you seen what happens if you sneeze or cough in public these days? Even if you are suitably attired, you still get "those looks" right? I try to stay home as much as possible myself, but I'm one of those "essential employees" that has to go out into public every day to fix stuff. It can be nerve wracking at times, but I don't let it get to me and neither should you folks. Just be sure to take care and as they say: "We'll all get through this together!"

Here's looking at you kid(s)! Stay healthy and maybe soon we can all have a doughnut at the clubhouse again! In the meantime, as Prez Dave suggests, join us in the Zoom meetings (On W7dk.org under club meetings) or join in the Saturday Doughnut Eaters Net on the 147.280 repeater at 1000 local…

We are up to eleven weeks of doing the DEN net. The Zoom meetings are still fairly new, but they attract at least a dozen participants every Saturday. Also don't forget the regular club meetings are also on Zoom. Details are on the club's website.

We still also have the regular Tuesday nets and the Sunday ten meter net. Again, look to the club website for details.

On that note, I have a quick question for you loyal readers: In years past, the Tuesday night net controls would forward their lists of net check-ins to the Bark editor for inclusion in the newsletter. The editor would then parse the lists and put the resulting list into the "Loggers Bark". Would anyone be interested in reviving that practice again? Let me know with a short email to the address listed on the last page of this publication or just send your opinion to me at WG7X@arrl dot net.

Thanks and See you there! (On Zoom that is!)

Gary, WG7X

Radio Club of Tacoma Board of Directors Meeting May 6, 2020

Zoom Meeting called to order at 19:05 by Dave - W7UUU

Officers and Directors Present

President Dave Ellison W7UUU

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Board Adam Barbera W2NCC

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Quorum? A quorum was seated and 17 people attended via ZOOM

Silent Key or Illness?

Inquiries were made about Worth Gurley's W7WG status. No one had information.

Approval of Minutes Minutes of April 1, 2020 RCT BOD meeting was approved as circulated.

Secretary's Report (Mike W7MKE) Usual stuff, some bills, membership renewals and QSL cards

Treasurer's Report (Steve AF7YD) Steve reported property taxes paid was $ XXXX Checking balance is $REDACTED Savings is REDACTED and internet checking is REDACTED totaling ALSO REDACTED. Steve doesn't have information on PayPal account. Steve compared this year income and spending vs. last year's which shows we are down about $XXX in spending. So far this year income is about $XXX below expenses.

Committee / Reports

Membership (George K7GRS)

George reported membership is at 275 with one pending.

Training

John – AC7WW has designed and received approval for a new VE Testing Method, details attached.

Info Tech and Website (Randy WB4SPB)

Classroom computer is malfunctioning. Randy wants to try to upgrade some computers to Windows 10. He reports the W7DK website is OK although were behind in some versions of php, etc. No further activity by IT Refresh committee.

HF Operations (Phil K7PIA)

Pretty much on hiatus until club reopens. RTTY "CONTEST" ON 5/16-17. Members can try for Loggers Certificate on RTTY. W7UUU can make certificates for any mode.

Peter –AD7EU wonders if possibly members can use club antenna from outside the club? Nick Winter K7MO as Tower Chair had ideas about how to do that. It needs to stay weather shielded. There were also discussions about making the FLEX available via remote users. HF committee will consider how that might happen as training and other issues are involved. HF committee needs to work out something for Salmon run.

Repeater Ops (Al N7OMS)

Rich KR7W has APRS set up with the antenna at his house for now and W7DK shows up on APRS website. N7OMS has a cable to program Arcom controller. Repeaters seem to be working OK.

Facilities Mgmt (Adam W2NCC)

Most things on hold for now but at end of month may resume some things. Dick Marsden N7RHV mowed the grass recently. There have been an offer for security cameras from Bill Hodge N6TO . Another member who works for a security company has offered a security review, possibly Scott Olsen KF7KSU.

Property Mgmt (Red WB7EC)

A new PMT sales list made up so contact Red via email if you want to buy something. PMT took in $55.00 in April. We have donations but RED – WB7EC wants someone to inventory them so he can list it for sales. Mike Isakson W7HX asked if we could list PMT sales on website? Seemed to be doable.

Museum (Rich KR7W)

No report this month

Weds Workshop (Randy WB4SPB)

Last month had a FD meeting via ZOOM. Will try to do ZOOM again for May but no topic just yet.

General Meeting (Verna KF7SCB)

Verna reported that at May meeting she will do a presentation on three different logging systems: N1MM, N3FJP and QRZ as an aide to this year's Field Day at Home.

Unfinished Business

Tower maintenance

Tower issues were addressed by Nick Winter K7MO. He wants to have Harrington Tower people do maintenance and painting. He feels it must be done this summer. Also he will address grounding issues and possibly install hard line.

14th Street Encroachment Agreement

Steve AD7YF and others expressed concerns about the agreement. Wording about it being binding on future owners, etc. Others expressed concerns about the drawings being illegible. BOD needs to get full size renderings of drawings. View was that the club needs to get its own lawyer to review this. Dave W7UUU will look for lawyer and advise the City that we'd get back to them later because we need more review.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MAY 9th 2020 via ZOOM

Meeting called to order at 13:30 by President Dave – W7UUU

Officers and Directors Present

President	Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice Pres	Mike Mikuchonis
Secretary	Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE
Board	Phil Pia K7PIA
Board	Paul Matney K7PFU
Board	Adam Barbera W2NCC
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P

Attendance

A majority of club officers and board members was present and 25 people logged on to the Zoom Meeting. Attendance roster attached.

Visitors & Guests

Brian AG7ZY took Tech exam at club and has joined ZOOM Meeting to further club participation. Brian is our very first ever virtual visitor.

Health and Welfare/Silent Key & Illness

Still no information on Worth Gurley W7WG

BruceWE7P spoke to Dave AndresenW7HTJ today and Dave asked Bruce to pass on his good wishes. Dave has trouble getting around and was unable to attend.

Secretary's Report

Usual stuff, some bills, QSL cards, Membership renewals

Treasurer's Report

Property tax paid $4171.07. Spending this year down about $6500 from last year but even so our spending this year exceeds income by about $1900**.** Several budget items cannot happen so that money is available for this year: FD Tents authorize by the RCT BOD will not be purchased. Dave W7UUU returned the wireless Mi crophone ($230) as not needed for now until can do group meetings again. Club may be able to save on post age if people OK with doing membership renewals via email and PayPal, same with Salmon Run.

President's Report

Nothing this month

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership (K7GRS)

Membership stands at 275. George thinks we can save maybe $2-300 on Salmon run and member ship renewal mailings if we do by email instead of postal. Randy WB4SPB, Mike Isakson W7HX and George K7GRS are trying to get in touch with everyone to get them to be able to ZOOM

Training (AD7AB, AC7WW)

No training this month. John AC7WW has VE test scheme for doing testing in cars. Method has been authorized by ARRL. Procedure for this is attached.

HF Operations (K7PIA)

HF on Hiatus due to club closing. RTTY "contest" for RCT on May 16-17. Enter and try for a Loggers Certificate! Frequencies are: 3.590 7.080 14.080 21.080 and 10M at 28.070 so Technicians participate too.

Repeater Operations (N7OMS)

Repeaters working OK no more hum!

APRS is working so W7DK shows on APRS website now. Thank you Rich KR7W.

Al –N7OMS has programing cable for Arcom controller and wants others to learn how to program too.

IT Report (WB4SPB)

Classroom computer has some issues and is down now. Randy is trying to load Windows 10 on some computers using Windows 7 license—supposed to be OK to do that

Randy maintains website so if anyone spots out of date or obsolete entries let him know.

Museum (KR7W)

No report

Property Management (WB7EC)

Donations are down because club is not open. Have new donations from Dave- W7HTJ Sales are listed in the BARK and may be on website in future. Contact Red WB7EC if you want to purchase. Adam W2NCC may be able to meet at club to facilitate payment and delivery if you want to get something.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Most projects on hold until end of the month. Thank you Dick Marsden N7RHV for mowing lawn. Are looking at possibly setting up coax junction box from tower beam to someplace outside the club so you can drive up and hook up your coax to tower beam. You'll need your own jumper and power supply.

Plans are to hook up alarm in garage and we may get security cameras.

4th Wed. Night Activity (WB4SPB)

Plan to do via ZOOM again. Randy is thinking about a session on N1MM logging program in preparation for Field Day at home.

Bark Editor (WG7X)

List for property management not in April BARK but several other good BARK article

April has first installment of History of RCT edited by Doug Oakman AD7AV and many club members contributed. It is dedicated to Honorary Club Member Larry Watson KD4VOM RCT #1864

Second session on RCT History will be upcoming in MAY (2 of 3)

Always need content

New Business

None offered

Unfinished Business / Announcements

14th St Encroachment. BOD decided to have lawyer review.

Tower Maintenance will happen this summer. Probably hire Harrington Tower to do it.

Joe KJ7JAY suggested that if tower is 50 years old, might qualify as historical structure.

Program: Verna Lilly KF7SCB and audience reviewed logging programs N3FJP, N1MM and QRZ

N3FJP

Pros: Easy to use. Some issues for setting up with radio for sound files etc. but not too hard. Can network several computers. Not expensive N3FJP – cost $8.99 for just Field Day, $49.99 for full package for all contests and future updates.

Cons: Not free. Windows only program, Apple products need work arounds

N1MM

Pros: Most popular free logging program. Has tons of features, can customize screens All major contests sup ported. Instructions on website easy to follow (manual is very large!)

Cons: Not a program the RCT uses. More for individuals not groups. Just a contest log, not for general logging.

QRZ

Pros: Used as interface into other logging programs. Free website. A true double blind matching system, both ends of contact must match.

Cons: Online only, very slow. For individuals, not groups.

ARRL still not going to let us aggregate our scores but will list all RCT participants

Tuning and Traffic :W7UUU showed his Doc Spike QSL card from 1975. W7UUU showed a QSL card that is a patch! From Sal Rrivero WA2PPH (1970's) W7UUU has a KOA wood QSL card from WH6EEY – for a JT65 con tact on 17m.

WG7X has a card from Burma 1Z9B that was a rebel group he contacted on 15M

Announcements:

Zoom meeting notifications and credential are on the W7DK website—see the "meetings" tab.

Adjournment: At 15:05

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh

Radio Club of Tacoma

Secretary

History of the Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK

From the Beginning Until Just the Other Day

Dedicated to Larry Watson KD4VOM, Inspirational Leader

[PART II] THE INTERWAR PERIOD

As the Great War's end seemed imminent, the club reconvened. The February 12, 1918 RCT minutes show the Radio Club of Tacoma's return to active operations. Elections were held and Howard Reichert returned to the helm as president; Norman J. Arndt became vice president; Neville R. Benoit, secretary; Art Reeder, treasurer; Kenneth B. Aldrich, assistant secretary and press agent. The minutes reflect that monthly dues were established as fifty cents and the initiation fee was set at one dollar.

After World War I, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL founded 1914) re-formed in February 1919, and QST began publishing again in June 1919. Meanwhile, on April 12, 1919, amateur receiving privileges were restored. However, these privileges were not without threat. There were several unsuccessful attempts in congressional committees, both during and after the war, to give the Secretary of Navy permanent control of all radio in the United States. Amateur radio was in serious danger of extinction.

In an early and effective display of lobbying, the ARRL sponsored a "blue card appeal," and

thousands of cards were sent in to congressional members from amateurs and their relatives. Hiram Percy Maxim, founder and president of the ARRL, personally lobbied Congress for restoration of amateur radio privileges. Support in Congress swung towards amateurs, and a joint resolution was introduced in the United States. Congress called on the Navy to release its hold on radio frequencies. The Navy finally consented, and amateur transmitting privileges were authorized in the U.S. in October 1919. In fact, amateurs were only permitted to operate 200 meters and down! But these wavelengths turned out to include the precious, world-wide shortwave bands! (Radio operators speak of wavelengths as longer to shorter (top to bottom), hence, "Top Band" is 160 meters; frequencies go up, so the "short waves" are 3-30 MHz.)

Affiliation of the club with the ARRL came in August 1920 (September 14, 1920 minutes

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Gathering at the Northwest Amateur Radio Association with names1st Row: Alvin Stenso; Miss A. Bowman*; Miss Mariba Klieber*; Miss Winifred Dow (Secretary); Clarence Woodward (Treasurer); Karl Weingarten (Vice President); 2nd Row: Leslie Lunan; Ted Bentz; Eric Tugby; Wilbur H Barret; Colin Murdock; Clarence Vernon; Ray Daves*; Thad Row*; 3rd Row: Beal Mossman*; Frank Hartman; Lloyd N. Seger; H. H. Holt: C. A Dow; Wallace Fowler; George Faithful (*club records do not indicate RCT membership)

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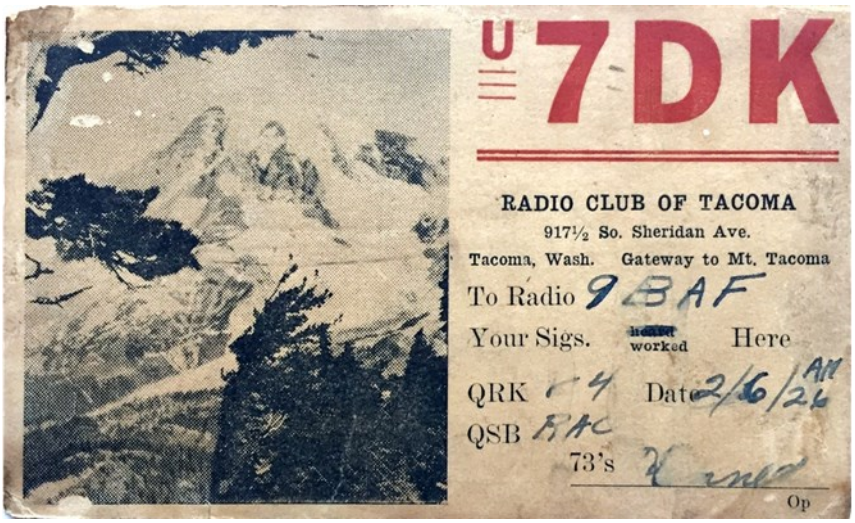
record the club's admittance by the ARRL). By the late 1920s, club hams had incorporated and were sponsoring regional amateur radio conventions. It was during this period that the club began to play a major role in Pacific Northwest amateur activities. The Radio Club of Tacoma sponsored annual banquets early on. In March of 1921, the Radio Club of Tacoma planned and held an annual banquet at the Knights of Pythias Hall. Over fifty amateurs from Seattle, Salem, Portland and other cities attended. A short time later, in Portland, 125 amateurs including a delegation of seventeen from Tacoma proposed a Northwest amateur radio Association. The theme of the 1922 banquet was "Cooperation, What it has done, and what it will do for radio"... More than 100 Northwest Amateurs from Portland, Seattle and Tacoma attended.

At the same time as amateur radio was attracting new advocates, the commercial broadcasting industry was also emerging. It should come as no surprise that many of the early amateurs migrated into the commercial broadcasting world. Al Stenso, original club treasurer, and Howard Reichert, original club president, were trailblazers in Tacoma commercial radio operations. By far the most flamboyant was Al Stenso, who established Station KGB at the Tacoma Ledger newspaper office.

Club members met in various locations until they eventually pooled their resources to buy the original clubhouse at 14th Street and South Oakes Street. The first club meetings were in homes and basements. Then, the club secured its first meeting place, which was Photographer's Suite in the Argonne Building. The second meeting place was a lawyer's office in the Bankers Trust Building, and then to the basement of St. Luke's Church. In 1921 the members joined the Commercial Club and had the use of their rooms, glad to have a more permanent location for the weekly Tuesday meeting.



As the club cemented its role of supporting ham radio in the Tacoma community, developments were afoot to give more regulation to radio services in the United States. The Federal Radio Act of 1927 replaced the Radio Act of 1912; in turn, the Federal Communications Commission came into being in 1934. Prefixes became required internationally in 1928, so 7DK became W7DK.

On this see Wikipedia "Federal Radio Act of 1927" https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio_Act_of_1927

In April of 1927 the club purchased three lots at the county's tax sale with the help of Karl Weingarten 7BG. By reselling a portion of the property, some forty-five club members were able to start building a clubhouse at 1462 South Oakes Street. They took out a $300.00 mortgage in 1930 to finish the house, to build a station, and to put up antennas with W7DK licensed by the Federal Radio Commission at that address. On May 4, 1927 The Radio Club of Tacoma signed its original Washington State Articles of Incorporation as a public non-profit corporation. Members made good use of the station. The club's stature was increasing.

This photo was probably taken around 1930-31, right after the house had been shingled.

In 1931, Doc Spike was chairman of the Northwestern Division ARRL Convention put on by the club and held on August 19 and 20 in the beautiful Tacoma Hotel. It was a big affair with much publicity and nearly 200 attending. Club activities in the 1930s are well described in the following letter to the Washington D. C. Radio Club by then-secretary Lawrence Kelly:

December 12, 1932

The Washington Radio Club,

Washington, D.C.

Roy C. Corderman, President.

Gentlemen:

Regarding your letter of November 14, 1932.

Our club was first organized in 1915 and met in various basements and garages until the present location was acquired a few years ago. A few lots were bought from the county for taxes and part of the property was sold by the club to finance the starting of the building. A mortgage was put on the property to complete the building. An initiation fee of $1.00 and dues of 50 cents per month was levied until the mortgage was paid off. The dues have since been reduced to 25 cents. We are enclosing a copy of our constitution and by laws which were redrafted and adopted recently. These will answer your questions on organization.

Interest in the meetings is maintained by the presentation of papers by members and occasionally talks by engineers from the local plant of the telephone company. A code class for beginners is maintained. Another class, on theory, is held one evening each week. This is our main source of new members and is played up by notices in the local newspapers. Our membership numbers about forty-five at this time. Special events are held from time to time such as hamfests, skating parties at the local roller rink, auctions of used equipment donated by members etc. Right now we are in the midst of a contest sponsored by one of the supply houses in Tacoma to further amateur activities. There are prizes for winners in the various divisions of the contest.

The divisions are as follows —

The most QSL cards received between Oct. 1st and Dec. 31st.

The most traffic handled [between ditto]

The best paper given [ditto]

The best piece of home constructed equipment

The most new members obtained

The most visitors brought to the club

The most regular attendance at meetings

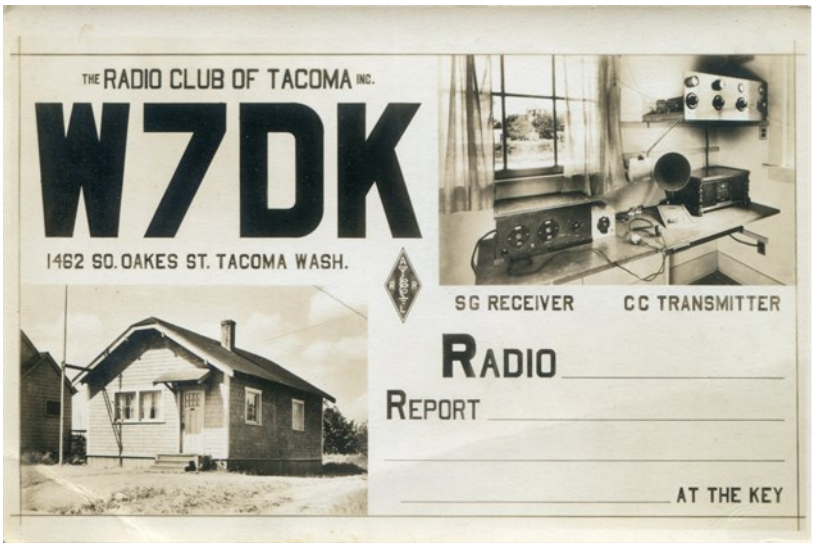
The proceeds from the auctions of course go to help out the club treasury. When a skating party is put on we rent the rink and make a profit on that too. We also keep a good supply of league handbooks, "How to becomes," log books etc. which are sold at a small profit to members. A question box is also maintained and furnishes the material for many discussions during the meetings. We try to have at least one paper every meeting. When a hamfest or card party is held the club treasury furnishes the coffee and individual members donate cakes and sandwiches.

The club transmitter and receiver was of course built by members and is under supervision of a set committee. All adjustments are made by the committee. The set committee is responsible for the proper preparation of the station. Only licensed operators have keys to the operating room. The name of operator must be signed in the log book after each transmission. We are also enclosing under separate cover one of our convention programs and a sample of the club's QSL cards. If any additional information is desired we wish to assure you of our willingness to cooperate to the best of our ability.

Yours very truly,

The Radio Club or Tacoma Inc. Secretary. L. Q. Kelly W7BPC [Lawrence Q. Kelly]

The club continued to meet weekly during the 1930s, but attendance declined and expenses grew. So when World War II was about to shut down amateur radio again, the club sold the Oakes Street clubhouse for $600 (July 19, 1939). It would be almost twenty years before the club would again secure a clubhouse.



Join the BARK history "net" next month to follow developments after WWII ... SK

W7DK's inaugural RTTY Activity event!

By: AL N7OMS

It was a conversation with Mike W7MKE that started things off. He wanted to learn RTTY and I wanted to get members on the air. During this shut down it is important that we continue to reach out to each other. We are after all a family of communicators. Adam's W2NCC and his group are doing a great job of supporting this with a variety of Zoom meetings and I wanted to do my part.

So I kicked around the idea of a RTTY contest for members with Gary WG7X and a few others. But a contest is not a simple thing to put on. You have advertising, collecting the logs, checking the logs, posting results, and on and on.

Now, during this time President Dave was telling us how he had a good stock of blank Loggers Certificates and encouraging members to submit their logs. These certificates were special because they had been originally printed by member Dick Ryan W7RGD(SK). Barbra Osborne W7UYL was the first custodian and performed that job for years until Nick K7MO took over the custodianship and then passed it off to Dave, W7UUU.

I had the privilege years ago of visiting with Dick at his home with Nick K7MO. Dick was a long time member that contributed much to the Club. One of the ways he did so was to publish the Bark and print the Loggers Certificates. During my visit I got to see the two printing presses he used in his basement for that purpose. What a story it must be about how he got them down there in the first place. They must have weighed as much as a small car and been nearly as big.

At that time things started to come together for me and a visit to the Website provided the last pieces of the puzzle. You can qualify for a Loggers Certificate if you contact 10 club members any mode any band. Eureka! That was it! To add icing Dave W7UUU was willing to make it special by adding the RTTY mode endorsement to the certificate. So a weekend was chosen to kick start this effort.

It was a lot of fun chasing down the needed contacts. We used the repeater to stay in touch and you could listen while the hunt was on for those 10 needed QSOs. I believe about 13 members got on the air that weekend so you really had to stay on top of things. Using the club repeater made things much more doable.

While that weekend has gone past you can still receive this special edition by contacting 10 club members using RTTY. So I encourage you all to give RTTY a try and when ready use the clubs repeater to find members to contact. As an added bonus you will then be ready for the next RTTY contest.

Well that's it from your contest team. Hope you are all staying safe and heating up the airwaves using whatever mode suits your fancy. Hellschreiber anyone?

73 N7OMS

Left: Mike W7MKE Proudly displays his RTTY Loggers Certificate that he received as a result of working ten club members on RTTY during the recent event held May 16th & 17th 2020.

A big thanks goes out to Prez Dave W7UUU for quickly printing out the certificates on gen-u-wine parchment stock from way back!

Below is Al, N7OMS's copy of the certificate. Good job fellows!

RCT VIRUS SALE 2020 Items in red are new untested equipment

ITEMS 18-219 – left from M & K

Contact RED WB7EC at E-MAIL(bruce-ec@hotmail.com) to reserve/make offer on A item after VIRUS clears up

		PRICE
18. Yaesu HF PWR AMP FT-2100B		$300.00
25. Kenwood XTAL Filter YG-455C-1		$50.00
41. Suitcase with Tektronix scope camera		$50.00
84. Comet Triplexer CFX-514		$40.00
114. Astron Power Supply RS-12A		$25.00
119. Elecraft HF XCVR K1 TWO bands 15/40 /AT		$300.00
125. Kenwood TR-9000 2MTR XCVR		$100.00
127. Mirage 2 MTR AMP B-1016G		$200.00
131. ICOM HF XCVR IC- 706	SN: 8973	UNDER REPAIR
138. Kenwood HF RX R-599D	SN: 530265	UNDER REPAIR
147. DX Engineering Remote Coax Control Switch CC-8		$400.00
148. DX Engineering Coax Switch RR8-HP		P/O #147
149. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-930S SN: 2120327		$600.00
150. Kenwood Speaker SP 930		P/O #149
151. Kenwood MIC MC-60		P/O #149
152. Kenwood Power Supply PS-30		P/O #149
156. MFJ Active Antenna MFJ-1020C		$60.00
157. MFJ Dual Speech Enhancer MFJ-618		$150.00
166. Mirage VHF 6 MTR AMP a-1015G		$250.00
167. Vectronics Antenna Tuner mod HFT 1500		$300.00
170. Alinco VHF/UHF XCVR DR-60ST		$150.00
174. CDE Rotor Control H-IV/CD-45-II		$50.00
175. CDE H-IV/CD-45-II Rotor Control		$50.00
180. Rig Blaster plug & play Digital mode interface		$30.00
181. Emerson speaker		$5.00
182. Archer rotor control PN: 15-1220		$5.00
183. Wilson WR50U rotor control		$7.00
184. ICOM IC-H19s2 VHF hand held/ BM-70 charger		$7.00

185. two Amateur TV stations in portable boxes	$500.00 for both/300.00 each
186A. Sony DCR-HC 42 camera case	$50.00
186B. Sony DCR-HC 42 camera case	$50.00 186A/B $ 75.00
189. Motorola MFR M12 L box	$5.00
190. Motorola MSRS 12 Regulator box	$5.00
191. F2A85-V motherboard	$3.00
192A HRO Receiver Dial Drives	$20.00
192B HRO Receiver Dial Drives	$20.00
192C HRO Receiver Dial Drives	$20.00
193. Heathkit Sine Wave Audio Generator IG-5218	$30.00
194. Zenith old Radio not complete	$20.00
195. Zenith old radio complete	$30.00
198. Philco old radio	$10.00
200. Home made test set	$10.00
201. Patrolman Pro 2 receiver	$5.00
202. Aldenmarine Fax IV	$30.00
205. COMP USA 250 watt ATX power supply	$10.00
206. COMP USA 250 watt ATX power supply	$10.00
212. Lafayette Speaker model 99-2571	$30.00
215. Blue box with 4 headsets	$ 20.00
219. Russia Tubes 6N21C—10 tubes in box	$ 30.00
221. Kenwood HF XCVR TS 680S	$
222. Kenwood Power supply PS-50	$
223. Kenwood 2/220 mobile XCVR TM-621A	$
224. Alinco 2mtr FM mobile XCVR DR110	$
225. Alinco 2/440 mobile XCVR DR-590T	$
226. B & W Antenna Tuner VS300A	$

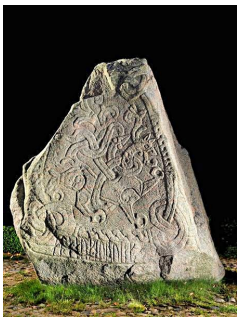
AS OF 26 APRIL 2020

Pandemic Isolation Meanderings - From the Basement Bunker Hobby Shop

By KR7W

I like perusing Banggood.com's electronic gizmos offerings. Recently Bluetooth (**BT**) modules cried out at me to buy them. In the first shopping spree- a few small 5 watt audio amplifier circuit boards with a built in BT receiver were purchased. One board was installed into a Free Table 1970's transistor radio case, another in a set of Free Table PC speakers. My Smartphone connects (paired) to either of these Homebrew Wireless Audio portals from time to time to play ARRL podcasts and YouTube music.

But Wait! Ole Joe wants to know: "Since this is a Ham Radio Club newsletter– how does BT fit into the theme?" First– our club is the Radio Club of Tacoma (without the 'ham'). Second– BT uses ***radio*** to do it's thing. Joe, the purpose of this article is to elaborate on BT in simple terms – what it is, some things it can be used for, to Show n Tell my latest BT Project and hopefully- how it may help you with your ham radio hobby.

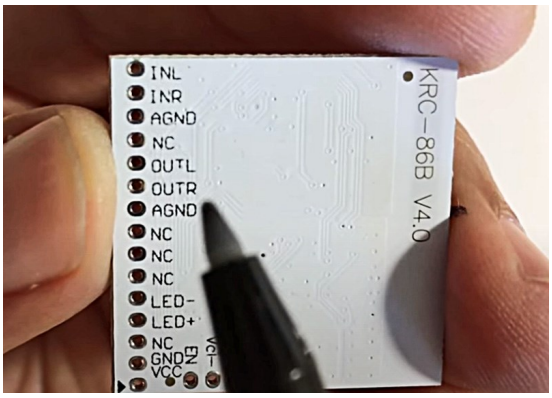


Sketchy History: Harald Bluetooth was king of Denmark in the late 900s. Harald left a rune stone monument in memory of his parents. For a reason that's not clear to me- communications companies from the Nordic region (nations including Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland)- pioneers in cell phone technology chose King Harald's name for this technology. I became aware of BT whilst installing hands-free cell phone kits in vehicles beginning in 2006– years before BT was included in car entertainment systems.

BT networking transmits data via low-power radio waves. It communicates on frequencies from 2.45 to 2.483.5 GHz using 80 channels in the Industrial, Scientific, Medical (ISM) band that is shared with cordless phones, baby monitors and more. The 80 channels change frequency 1,600 times (frequency hopping) per second to minimize interference. Low power transmitters are used for connectivity from 30 to 600 feet. Because it is a radio signal– it doesn't need a line of sight path like IR (infra-red) devices. The walls in your house will not stop a BT signal from connecting (pairing) your smart phone or smart TV to powered speakers or headset, and possibly devices to enhance ham radio.

Show n Tell: My second Banggood shopping spree netted me a different type of BT receiver– the **KRC-86B**. This module does not have speaker amplifiers like the first round. It has a stereo **input** for line level audio (headset levels) and an **output** for the same. When the BT module is not 'paired' with a device (smart phone, tablet, BT transmitter module)- then the i**nput** audio signals pass through the 86B module to the **output** terminals. When a BT device is paired with the KRC-86B module– then the BT devices audio is connected to the output terminals.

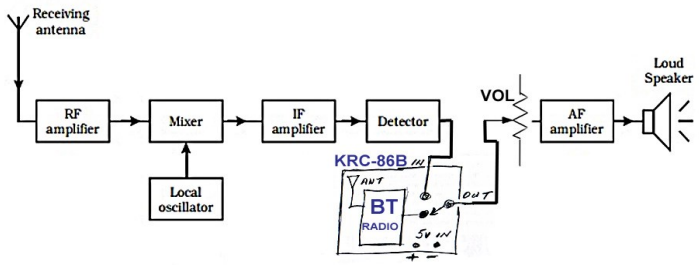
My goal for the KRC-86B was to install it in one of my favorite vacuum tube entertainment radios (a pre WW2– 1941 Philco) to listen to podcasts from my smart phone or tablet via the radios audio path and be able to use the radios volume control.



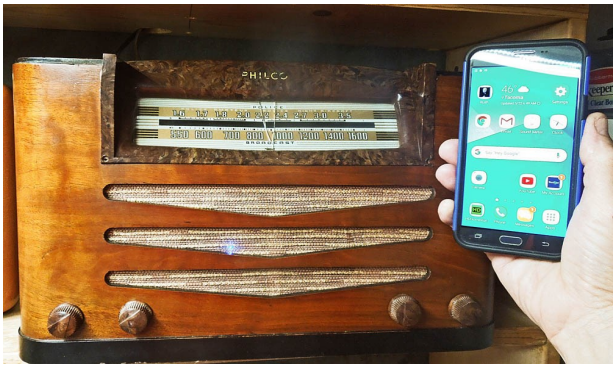
KRC-86B BT Module. IN IN, OUT OUT, GND.

The module uses 5 VDC (typical USB voltage) to make it play. A simple AC to DC power supply was created– using some of the radios 6.3 VAC filament power– then fed to a Banggood adjustable voltage regulator– set to 5 USB volts DC. The BT module worked– but the audio was full of AC hum. Powering the voltage regulator with a 9 volt battery instead of the filament supply- the hum went away. Ah Ha! This experimenting determined that there is an audio ground loop issue (aka Pin 1 problem) that causes hum to be introduced into the audio path. Another Banggood product was used to create a separate 5VDC source to power the BT module– a 100 to 250 VAC input to 5 VDC output power supply module. When the radio is switched on– the tubes light up and 5VDC is fed to the KRC-86B. Smart phone plays hum free, and ***Bob's your Uncle***! **(Google it)**

Bluetooth ideas for Ham Radio: The **Anytone 578** UVIIIPro Tri Band DMR/Analog mobile radio… and the **Anytone D878 UV+** hand held DMR/Analog radios are BT equipped. Each has the ability to connect/pair with your vehicles audio entertainment system (like a smart phone does)… and each radio has



Block diagram of BT module connections to old Philco Vacuum Tube entertainment radio.



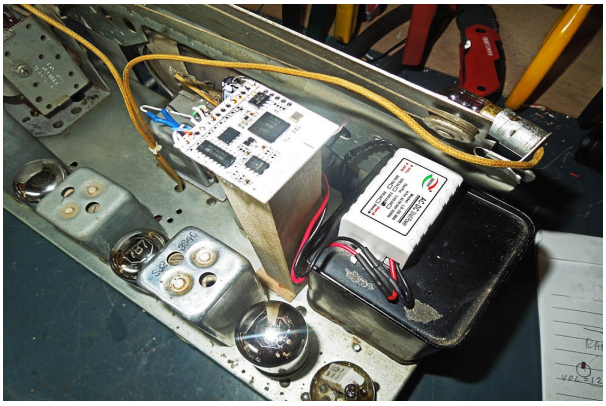
Philco model 42-335. Note the blue light in center speaker grill, left of center, behind grille cloth. This is the BT Pairing LED controlled by the KRC-86B

headset to work with the radios. Google other radio brands + Bluetooth– see what's out there. Baeofeng?

Anytone D878UV+

a BT PTT button gizmo, with Velcro strap to attach to your steering wheel. Pair the PTT gizmo to the radio, then pair the radio to your cars BT equipped entertainment system– Again, Bob's your uncle! Both hands on the wheel operation! There's an *unverified* rumor that the mobile radio can be programmed using BT. Double Wow! If true.

Yaesu sells an add in module for VX-8DR & FTM-400DR radios that allows a BT



Philco radio chassis view: The KRC-86B module is mounted to a 5" tall piece of wood silicone glued to the top of the radios chassis to prevent BT 2.4 GHz signal shielded from the metal parts. The white module on right side is the 120VAC to 5VDC switching power supply module– which generates radio noise– is mounted away from the radios antenna circuits on the opposite side of the chassis.

Google 'Bluetooth Transmitter' to use with a TV. For $40, it comes with a selection of plugs and adaptors to plug it into your TV audio jacks. It can also plug into the headset jack on your HF transceiver to transmit audio to a remote BT speaker and (better yet) to a pair of BT headphones (approx $40) for cord free listening to your radio. With the right BT transmitter– you could be mowing your lawn while getting your fix of listening to the Noon-Time Net on 7.2835.

Out of Space. End of 2 page report. Out of sight in the basement bunker hobby shop.

73, Rich KR7W.

Field Day at Home Update, by Verna KF7SCB

ARRL has challenged us all to use this year's Field Day as an opportunity to adapt and overcome. Well, let's do it. Let's make this Field Day one for the books with a high level of participation and creative ideas.

Here's where we are at this point:

Bring Your Own Log:
Everybody use whatever logging program you prefer and submit your individual entry to ARRL. Send a summary to me and I'll make a spreadsheet and we'll have our own in-house totals. We'll come up with some awards with certificates (Dave UUU has some ideas) and celebrate our accomplishments in the BARK.

Meet You in the Zoom Room:
We'll have a Zoom meeting open for the duration of Field Day. It'll be for visiting, sharing meals together and people can use the chat area for questions, messages, etc. This will contribute to the social aspect we all love about Field Day.

Do Something Different:
Get outside the box of your usual operations and try something new. Maybe try a kind of emergency power you haven't tried before, or a portable antenna. Set up a backyard station and take a picture. Do a crazy experiment (safely) and take a picture of that for show and tell in the Zoom Room. Be creative; have fun.

Between now and Field Day is a good opportunity to set up a practice portable station. Send a photo to Gary WG7X for the Bark! If you have any suggestions for making this year's Field Day more fun, more interesting or more better (yes, I did that on purpose), let me know. I look forward to a great FD@Home with you all!

Verna KF7SCB

2020 Field Day at Home - Think of it as a kind of buffet. You can:

Choose Your Class –

A – Club/non-club portable: group of three or more persons set up specifically for Field Day. NOTE – Please comply with social distancing guidelines that are in effect at the time of Field Day.

B – One or two person portable

C – Mobile (vehicle)

D – Home Station normal power (can only count contacts with Class A, B, C, E officially)

E – Home Station emergency power (may work all classes of Field Day stations)

Choose Your Log –

N3JFP

N1MM

QRZ

Other

Choose How to Stay in Touch with Fellow Club Members (please join any and all) –

Zoom – meeting room will be open during contest for social visits, helping each other, etc. Join any time, but especially for mealtime! Here's the schedule and menu from years past. Let it spark some ideas!

Friday – 12:30 Pizza

Saturday – 10:00 Coffee and doughnuts

12:30 Grilled cheese &ham sandwiches, tomato soup, chips, crackers

6:00 Fried chicken, baby back ribs, baked beans, coleslaw, rolls, cake

Sunday – Logger's Breakfast…eggs & omelets to order, waffles, sausage patties, hash browns

Discord – online chat 24/7, Patrick Vaglica K7DKP is point of contact (you can find link on the club facebook page)

Club Repeater – 147.280

Facebook – Radio Club of Tacoma

And the most important choice – Be Safe and Have Fun!

Thanks Verna! (Ed.)

ARES MATTERS

Ama-

Dis-

teur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Western Washington Section
trict 5, Pierce County ARES
www.PierceCountyARES.net

June 2020

Greetings, fellow Hams!

ARES MATTERS provides information about amateur radio emergency communications, Pierce County ARES activities, and events; courtesy of the Radio Club of Tacoma, ***Loggers Bark***. ARES is an ARRL organization dedicated to Amateur Radio Emergency Communication through proficiency and preparedness.

Unfortunately, we are still not holding in-person meetings or training sessions. All of our online content is available on our website. We also conduct virtual training sessions using the Zoom application.

General information notes:

District 5 ARES is conducting a daily (1100L) Resource and Information NET on the W7AAO 145.3700 W MHz repeater. We conduct random over the air training sessions in conjunction with this net to practice voice traffic handling and Winlink operations. Our dedicated NET control team has been honing their skills and improving the quality of our District NET operations. If you want to learn more about NET control operations, this NET is an excellent venue. We routinely practice emergency and priority traffic, relieving the NET control, and jumping the NET to an alternate frequency. Please participate in the NET and consider volunteering for the NET control team.

Our NET control team has assumed responsibility for the weekly District NET, and we have changed the format to coincide with the R&I NET. We now take team reports and check-ins in Team order. Our NET schedule is posted on the website, and NETs are open to all amateurs.

We are diligently working on expanding our Winlink infrastructure within Pierce County; we hope to deploy an additional two gateways over the summer. One will be a 1200 baud packet gateway, and the second will be a VARA FM gateway located in central Tacoma. The Winlink system is the preferred mode to support emergency management agencies across the country and is used by FEMA/DHS and other federal partners. If you are not familiar with Winlink operations, we can help. We also conduct a weekly Winlink check-in NET open to all amateurs. You may check-in at any point during the week on multiple modes/bands. The check-in email address is winlink@piercecountyares.net.

The Bonney Lake EOC is coming online. The City of Bonney Lake has recently installed all of the antennas to support their amateur radio station, and we hope the remaining station equipment will be installed soon. We are seeking operators to support the Bonney Lake EOC for both voice and digital modes. This area of the County has long been underserved, and this is an excellent opportunity to support your community.

Pierce County District 5 Website: http://www.piercecountyares.net/web
ARES Membership Application: http://www.piercecountyares.net/web/application
Twitter: @ARESWWADist5

Gary Emmons
District 5 PIO
KH2AY
newsletter@piercecountyares.net

Committed to our Community
When All Else Fails

MAILBAG!

We get mail! Keep those cards and letters coming in folks! Be the first on your block to be published in the "Logger's Bark"!

First up is Bob K7MXE with another neat old rig!

Last month was the DX60 which old timers will remember as possibly their first radio and new comers see it as a big heavy old thing they see up in the museum. The DX 60 operates on most of the ham bands between 80 and 10 meters with Am phone modulation and CW. About 50 watts max output and all tubes. It does have the VFO option with the HG10 so no crystals are required like back in the 1960's when novices were required to use crystals.
Now this month we have the receiver used with this setup. Company called Elmac long out of business made mobile equipment for hams and this was a six volt or with changes could be 12 volt for cars newer than the mid 1950's. This radio is a 1951 and has a external power supply and speaker. Covers same frequencies as the DX60 but will pick up the 160 meter and Broadcast band if your 51 Kaiser had no car radio.

Next is Patrick K7DKP, with his “DX Commander” antenna. With a name like that you’re sure to get the DX, right?

The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu©w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz©w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd©w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p©w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu©w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc©w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec©w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia©w7dk.org

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ARRL Liaison: Unassigned

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is $35 per calendar year or $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3